

**MADISON COUNTY LEPC
(Local Emergency Planning Committee)
Meeting Minutes 19 October 2006**

Attendees:

Karen Brown, MadCo GIS/IT and MCSAR
Steve Orr, MCSO/VCRFD/MVRFD
Chris Orr, VCVFD
Lewis Stahl, HVFD
Doris Fischer, MadCo Planner
John Bancroft, Ennis Town Council
Shawn Christensen, MVRFD & MCSAR
Scott McClintic, MVRFD
Joe G. Husar, Harrison QRU & MadCo Risk Mitigation Coordinator
Melinda Tichenor, Madison Valley Hospital & MadCo CCC
David Schenk, MCSO
Roman Hendrickson, MD, Ruby Valley Hospital
Frank Ford, MadCo Emergency Management
Lindsey Martin, Ruby Valley Hospital

The regular monthly meeting of the LEPC was called to order at 7:05 PM by Chairman Stahl. John Bancroft moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting with the corrections noted regarding communications and the Schenk report on a roundtable discussion. Frank Ford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Chairman Stahl reminded the members that the meeting was to be devoted entirely to consideration of matters pertaining to subdivision review. He asked that any necessary committee reports be kept brief.

CCC: Melinda Tichenor reported that the October CERT training scheduled for Twin Bridges was canceled due to there only being three people signed up. The session has been rescheduled for 4, 11 and 12 November, however response has been cool to date. The probability that there will be no future federal funding for this program and the attendant adverse impact on participant morale & interest was discussed.

Director of Emergency Management Report: Frank Ford reported that this had, as usual, been provided to the members by Email and that there were no additions.

Old Business

Public Safety Subdivision Regulations Review: The remainder of the meeting was taken up with considering what needs to be addressed from a public safety perspective when reviewing subdivisions prior to county approval. Frank Ford opened the discussion by explaining the process of subdivision review as it now exists and how his department participates in that process. He pointed out that the spring/summer of 2007 will be, for a number of reasons, a significant window of opportunity for the LEPC to influence change in the county subdivision regulations. General discussion followed, with the members agreeing that the Committee should submit a proposal to the Board of Commissioners for changes that should be incorporated into subdivision review as requirements from an overall public safety and emergency management perspective. The member then went on to identify the following areas of concern:

- Accessibility:

- Year round access
- Gates & related entrance problems
- Bridges
- Multiple access routes
- Bridge, culver & road engineering
- Provisions for turn-around and two-way traffic
- Signage:
 - Size & visibility
 - Street signs & individual residence signs
- Water Supply
 - Absolute requirement for accessible year-round supply
 - Quantity requirements
- Availability of protections services and associated response times
 - Increasing difficulty in providing volunteer-based services
 - Need to quantify service requirements and develop call-related benchmarks to determine need for growth-related resource enhancements
- Communications
 - Availability of tactical, paging and alerting communications
- Cumulative impact on capability to provide services
- Construction Standards
 - Roofing, siding, overhangs, etc.
- Building envelopes and siting
 - Accessibility
 - Impact on response/dependability
- Defensible space
 - Initial requirements
 - Enforcement difficulties
 - Maintenance requirements
- Overall Hazard and Risk Assessment
 - Development of an overall assessment tool
 - Use of assessment to determine stringency of rules to be applied to a subdivision
- Affordable housing
 - Impact on ability to provide public safety & other support services
 - Economic & political factors

Shawn Christensen and Joe Husar volunteered to try to develop a draft of regulations pertaining to water and accessibility. Frank reported that his office is working on an overall risk/hazard assessment process that he hopes to have in use within the next few weeks. He went on to suggest that this tool is also something that should be worked into the subdivision review process on a formal basis and he and Joe will be working on that.

By general acclamation, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM. Chairman Stahl stated that the discussion would resume at the next monthly meeting, which was set for 7:00 PM on 16 November in the Courthouse.

Minutes recorded by F. R. Ford